

Raised Bill No. 204

February Session, 2006

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AN ACT PROMOTING THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH NEEDS OF STUDENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Not later than October 1, 2 2006, the Department of Education shall (1) develop guidelines for 3 addressing the physical, mental, social and emotional health needs of 4 students in a comprehensive manner that coordinates services, and (2) 5 make available to each local and regional board of education a copy of 6 the guidelines. The department shall develop the guidelines after 7 consultation with (A) the chairpersons and ranking members of (i) the 8 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance 9 of matters relating to education, and (ii) the select committee of the 10 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to children, 11 and (B) at least one state-wide nonprofit organization with expertise in 12 child wellness or physical exercise. The guidelines shall not be deemed 13 to be regulations, as defined in section 4-166 of the general statutes. 14 Local and regional boards of education shall establish and implement 15 plans based on the guidelines in accordance with subsection (c) of this 16 section.

(b) The guidelines shall include, but need not be limited to: (1) Plans for engaging students in daily physical exercise during regular school hours and strategies for engaging students in daily physical exercise

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- before and after regular school hours, (2) strategies for coordinating school-based health education, programs and services, (3) procedures for assessing the need for community-based services such as services provided by school-based health clinics, family resource centers, after-school programs and community mental health centers, and (4) procedures for maximizing monetary and other resources from local, state and federal sources to address the physical, mental, social and emotional health needs of students.
 - (c) Not later than July 1, 2007, each local and regional board of education shall (1) establish a comprehensive and coordinated plan to address the physical, mental, social and emotional health needs of students, (2) base its plan on the guidelines developed pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, and (3) submit the plan to the Department of Education for review and approval. After the department approves the plan, the board shall implement the plan and update and resubmit the plan to the department for renewal not later than three years after the date the plan was initially approved, or every three years thereafter, as the case may be.
 - (d) The Department of Education shall, within available appropriations, assist local and regional boards of education in the development, implementation and renewal of plans required under subsection (c) of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1 from passage New section

KID Joint Favorable C/R ED